

STUDENT TO AGENT

Mystery Death
Hides CIA TiesBY STUART H. LOORY
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WASHINGTON—Before S. Avrea Ingram Jr. of Talladega, Ala., died mysteriously in an out-of-the-way New York hotel room at the age of 30, he spent the exotic last four years of his life living where the action was—in domestic and international student politics.

Ingram was graduated from the ranks of the National Student Assn. to become an agent for the Central Intelligence Agency. He was, in fact, one of the two students who first permanently hitched the two organizations together—creating a relationship that went much deeper than one which merely created pro-American propaganda abroad.

Ingram's transition tells much about the beginnings of a relation-



S. Avrea Ingram Jr.

(AP Wirephoto)

This report on the CIA and its dealings with the National Student Assn. and other groups is based on research and interviews by members of The Times Washington Bureau. On Monday, The Times will look at foundations, some linked to the CIA, and their impact on American life.

ship that eventually wound "around every facet of American life that has any connection outside the United States," as Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) put it last week.

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Death Conceals Facts

But Ingram's death conceals much about how the CIA originally got into the business of subsidizing the international programs of private groups from labor, students, women, secondary teachers, academics, and intellectuals.

The NSA-Ingram-CIA link is specific. Ingram was:

—International vice president of NSA for two terms from September, 1951, to September, 1953, during the period the CIA gave the first of its regular payments to support NSA's international program in the propaganda fight against international communism. The president of NSA that first year was William to Dentzer, now head of the United States AID Mission to Peru.

—Associate secretary of the coordinating secretariat of the International Student Conference in Leiden, Holland, from 1953 to 1956. The ISC also received CIA funds according to the disclosures of the past two weeks. In this job, Ingram succeeded Dentzer who left NSA after his presidency to join ISC.

Helped Hungarian Refugees

—An ISC field worker in Vienna during and just after the Hungarian uprising of October, 1956. His overt job was to help student-freedom fighters fleeing Hungary to resettle and resume their studies in the West. What else he may have been doing is not known.

Then, suddenly, Ingram was dead. He had returned to this country after Vienna and took up residence in the Irving Hotel at 26 Gramercy Park, New York.

At noon on Feb. 5, 1957, a maid opened the door to Room 19 in the hotel and found Ingram lying nude on the floor with a leather belt around his neck attached to the knob of a desk drawer.

The New York medical examiner called the death "asphyxia by hanging" and said the indications were suicide, some of his friends and his

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